

starts. When supply of expansion gas from the inflator 129 as expansion gas supplying means to the interior of the airbag 122, deployment and expansion of the airbag 122 starts. The state of the airbag apparatus 120 in the initial stage of deployment is shown, for example, in ~~FIG.4~~ and FIG.7.

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On page <sup>8</sup>~~9~~, please revise paragraph 40 beginning with line 4 as follows:

As shown in FIG.7, in the initial stage of deployment of the airbag apparatus 120, the first component part 123 of the airbag 122 is deployed and expanded while jumping out from the retainer 128. The state in which the airbag 122 is expanded while being deployed in this manner corresponds to "deployment and expansion" in the present invention. In this state, the second component part 124 disposed along the handle 104 is covered by the protective fabric 127 and the state of being stored in the cover body 126 is maintained, for example, as shown in FIG.5 4.

On page 11, please revise paragraph 48 beginning with line 4 as follows:

In the present embodiment, since the construction in which the second component part 124 is attached to the handle 104 by means of the mounting device 125 is employed, the position of the airbag 122 which is completed in deployment and expansion is hardly displaced when restraining the occupant and, in addition, since the rigid handle 104 serves as a pressure receiving portion of the airbag 122, the load exerted to the airbag 122 from the occupant can reliably be received by the handle 104.

On page 11, please revise paragraph 51 beginning with line 3 as follows:

As shown in FIG.11 and FIG.12, the cover body 226 is constructed of a plurality of cover configuration strips 226a in advance, and the plurality of cover configuration strips 226a are partly overlapped, so that the overlapped portions